

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8368

INFO SEC AF, WASHDC

CSAF (AFCAV) WASHDC

USCINCEUR (ECJ7-ECMD) VAIHINGEN GER

CINCUSAFE (SG) RAMSTEIN AB, GER

MAC (SG) SCOTT AFB, ILL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AEMR, PO

SUBJECT: MEDICAL AIR EVAC - GENERAL PAIVA

REFS: (1) AFR 168-1, PARA 69; (2) A-64, JANUARY 5, 1972

1. PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT HAS INQUIRED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF USAF PROVIDING MEDICAL AIR EVACUATION FOR RETIRED GENRAL JOAQUIM BRILHANTE PAIVA, EX-CHIEF OF STAFF, PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE, WHO IS PRESENTLY HOSPITALIZED AT A MILITARY MEDICAL FACILITY IN LISBON.

2. ALTHOUGH REFS REFER TO CARE FOR VIP'S IN U.S. MILITARY HOSPITALS, ONLY MEDICAL AIRLIFT IS REQUESTED IN THIS CASE. GEN PAIVA IS PARTIALLY PARALYZED DUE TO CIRCULATORY PROBLEMS AND DR. M.E. DEBAKEY HAS AGREED TO PERFORM AN OPERATION IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, THE COST OF WHICH WILL BE BORNE ENTIRELY BY THE GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL.

3. MEDICAL DESCRIPTION PROVIDED BY THE PORTUGUESE HEALTH SERVICE IS AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE GEN PAIVA, 60 YEARS OLD IS SUFFERING FROM A CIRCULATORY DEFICIENCY IN THE LOWER EXTREMITIES DUE TO AN AORTA-ILIUM OBSTRUCTION
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CONFIRMED BY AORTOGRAPHY AND IS ALSO SUFFERING THE

EFFECTS OF AN OLD HEART ATTACK AND SPATHIC HALF-PARALYSIS WITH BRACHIAL PREPONDERANCE AS THE RESULT OF A CRANIUM-CEREBRAL INJURY(TEMPORARY PARALYSIS OF THE RIGHT SIDE). UNQUOTE

4. THE TRANSPORTATION REQUESTED WOULD BE FOR A USAFE MEDICAL EVACUATION FLIGHT TO PICK UP GENERAL PAIVA AT PORTELA AIRPORT, LISBON, WHICH IS AN ON-CALL AIRPORT, AND FLY HIM TO GERMANY WHERE GEN PAIVA WOULD BE FLOWN ON A REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEDICAL EVACUATION FLIGHT TO U.S.A. IF POSSIBLE MEDICAL EVACUATION FLIGHT IS REQUESTED FROM Z1 ENTRY TO HOUSTON AREA. HOWEVER, IF ONWARD TRANSPORT NOT AVAILABLE, PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR FLIGHT TO HOUSTON. ALSO, IF REQUIRED, PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT CAN ARRANGE FLIGHT TO GERMANY IF PICK-UP AT PORTELA IS NOT FEASIBLE. ALL FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR TRANSPORTATION AND MEDICAL TREATMENT WILL BE ASSUMED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL AND A STATEMENT TO THIS EFFECT WILL BE EXECUTED.

5. NEITHER PROFESSIONAL SKILLS NOR ADEQUATE FACILITIES FOR TREATMENT ARE AVAILABLE IN PORTUGAL OR WITHIN USAF MEDICAL FACILITIES IN EUROPE.

6. THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES HAS PERSONNALLY DETERMINED THAT ACCESSION TO THIS REQUEST IS SUFFICIENTLY IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST TO WARRANT REFERRAL TO DEFENSE. POST

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